The matter has been taken up in the bilateral Coordination Meeting of police officials and in the Joint Meeting of the administrative and police officials in which both sides have agreed to maintain the status quo along no-man's land.

(c) and (d) The Indo-Nepal border is suscepitable to misuse including smuggling, by criminal and anti-social elements. Government have therefore, established bilateral mechanisms with the Government of Nepal such as the Joint Working Group on Border Management and talks at the level of the Union Home Secretaries to address issues relating to enhancement of security on both sides of the border. In addition, meetings at district and local levels between officials of both governments are held periodically.

Passport applications with ration card

2622. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ration cards are not taken as proof of Delhi people as their residential addresses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that passport offices refuse to entertain applications which are appended with ration card copy as residential proof; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Those applicants who submit ration cards as proof as residence are required to submit an additional document such as certificate from a reputed employer on letterhead, water/telephone/electricity bill, statement of running bank account, Income Tax Assessment Order, Election Commission ID Card, Spous' passport copy and parent's passport copy in the case of minors.

(d) The above decision has been taken in accordance with the direction of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.